



TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS  
WILLIAM S. VANDERPOOL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

January 30, 1989

The Honorable Robert Carr, Chair  
Senate Committee on State Government  
State Capitol Building  
L O C A L

Dear Senator Carr:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 258A.4(2) of the 1987 Code of Iowa, the Iowa State Board of Medical Examiners hereby submits the annual report of its activities for calendar year 1988.

A. The following administrative rules which relate to the duties and operations of the Board were promulgated, and adopted.

1. 470-135 to 470-136 were renumbered to 653-1 to 653-25. Due to the reorganization of state government by 1986 Iowa Acts, chapter 1245, a new agency identification numbering system for existing state agencies and new "umbrella" agencies was adopted by the Code Editor. The Board of Medical Examiners new organization number is 653. These rules became effective April 15, 1988.

2. 653-1 relating to the Iowa Fair Information Practice Act. These rules were dopted to comply with the Uniform Rules to Implement Public Records Law and Fair Information Practices Act. These rules became effective June 22, 1988.

3. 653-12 relating to hearings. This rule was adopted to clarify who can sit on the hearing panel when a hearing involves a physician assistant or a supervising physician conducted before the board. This rule became effective December 21, 1988.

4. 653-21 relating to the supervision of physician assistants. These rules were adopted to comply with the enactment of 1988 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2169 relating to criteria and procedures for the ineligibility of a physician to serve as a supervising physician or alternate supervising physician for a physician assistant. These were adopted on December 29, 1988 and will become effective on March 1, 1989.

B. The Board received and opened investigations into a total of 591 complaints during calendar year 1988. Included in the total are 217 cases related to professional liability (malpractice) claims, most of which were referred to the Board by the office of the Iowa Insurance Commissioner. In addition, 86 of the total

cases were opened at the Board's own motion.

C. There were no disciplinary actions taken by the Board during calendar year 1988 as the direct result of registered peer review committee action alone. Registered peer review committees are utilized by the Board however, to review and evaluate medical records, investigative reports and similar material, and to submit reports and recommendations to the Board relating to the Committees' findings.

D. The Board reviewed a total of 204 professional liability (malpractice) claims during calendar year 1988.

E. Thirty-seven (37) formal disciplinary actions were commenced before the Board of Courts during calendar year 1988.

F. The Board imposed a total of 37 formal disciplinary sanctions during calendar year 1988. In addition, the Board imposed 81 informal sanctions during the same time period. They include:

#### Formal Sanctions

1. License or certification revocations	7
2. License or certification suspensions	10
3. License or certification surrenders as a disposition to a formal disciplinary action	5
4. License or certification placed on probation	10
5. Civil penalties assessed alone	4
6. Court injunctions issued	1

#### Informal Sanctions

1. Letters of warning issued	58
2. Letters of concern issued	19
3. Letters of information issued	3
4. Voluntary surrenders of license or certification accepted during investigation without formal action commenced	1

GRAND TOTAL

118

(It should be noted that in many formal disciplinary actions, more than one sanction may be issued, i.e. suspension, civil penalty and probation; probation and civil penalty; civil penalty and restriction of practice or letter of reprimand etc. Only the most serious sanction is reflected in the above statistics.)

G. During calendar year 1988 there were 2 judicial review petitions filed in Iowa District Courts which are related to decisions the Board rendered in disciplinary actions. As of December 31, 1988, both actions are pending, awaiting Court hearings.

H. During calendar year 1988, the Board registered 5 peer review committees.



1. A Surgical Peer Review Committee consisting of 3 members is registered with the Board.
2. An Anesthesia Peer Review Committee consisting of 3 members is registered with the Board.
3. An OB/GYN Peer Review Committee consisting of 3 members registered with the Board.
4. An Internal Medicine Peer Review Committee consisting of 3 members is registered with the Board.

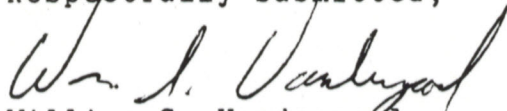
The Physician's Assistant Peer Review committee was disbanded as of July 1, 1988, when the Board of Physician Assistant Examiners was created through statute.

I. In addition to the formal disciplinary actions previously outlined in this report, the Board through formal action:

1. Denied the applications for Iowa licensure submitted by 7 physicians.
2. Approved the applications for Iowa licensure submitted by 3 physicians with prior histories of alcohol or drug abuse under terms of Consent Agreements, requiring monitoring, continued drug or alcohol treatment, etc.
3. Approved applications for certification to practice as advanced emergency medical technicians submitted by 3 persons with prior histories involving drugs or alcohol abuse under terms of Consent Agreement, requiring monitoring, continued drug or alcohol treatment, etc.

J. Formal actions concluded by the Board during calendar year 1988 totaled 50.

Respectfully submitted,



William S. Vanderpool  
Executive Director  
Iowa State Board of Medical Examiners